

Boston

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Cholera

CITY OF BOSTON.

HEALTH COMMISSIONERS.

The Committee appointed to consider what measures this Board ought to take, for the care and treatment of the sick, in case the cholera should actually appear in the city, ask leave to submit the following recommendations.

1. That, in the event contemplated in their commission, there should be a Hospital established in some dry, airy, and if possible, retired place in each of the districts of the city. Each of these Hospitals should be sufficiently spacious to accommodate conveniently at least thirty patients, and the rooms so divided and arranged as that two-thirds of the beds may be appropriated to males, and the remainder to females. The Committee recommend that the Sub-

Commissioners immediately look out for such a place in their respective precincts, and having found one, secure it by some such conditional engagement as will enable them to have possession thereof, whenever it may become necessary, at an hour's notice ; with instructions to report their selection to the Board, for their information and approval.

When put into service, each Hospital should be thoroughly equipped for such a number of patients as the exigency of the times may require, with bedding, furniture, nurses, servants, cook, medicines, and all such apparatus for curative applications to the sick, as experience has shown to be most efficacious, or as may be suggested by the attendant Physicians.

Thus prepared, the Hospital should be intrusted to four Physicians to be assigned to it by this Board, who should have the entire control of the internal economy of the establishment, and should so divide their time, and the duties of the place among themselves, as may best suit their own convenience, and secure a prompt and constant attendance for the sick. They should be permitted and requested to introduce such medical students, of advanced standing, as may be necessary or serviceable to them as assistants ; but none for mere professional curiosity or improvement.

The external police, supplies, &c. of the Hospitals are to be committed to the Sub-Commissioners of their respective districts, who are to report, daily, to the Board, and also during the prevalence of the sickness, are to visit frequently the poorer classes of

the population, and by every means to recommend to them the advantages of the hospital treatment, and urge them to be carried thither, or report themselves there on the first symptoms of the disease.

2. Inasmuch as we have learned, by observation, that the appearance of the disease, whether it be foreign or domestic in its origin, is in most places sudden, and that the first cases are much the most severe, the Committee consider it prudent that one Hospital, the location of which shall be determined by this Board, should be immediately prepared, on the plan just recommended, with means for the accommodation and treatment of as many patients as the Committee shall deem expedient, and for this purpose that a Committee be now appointed with full power to carry this recommendation into effect.

This being done, we shall not only be prepared to render prompt succour to the first sufferers; but having an example in the establishment proposed to be immediately opened, we can extend or multiply the provisions of it so as to meet in the most expeditious and effectual manner, the calls occasioned by the prevalence of the pestilence.

J. BINNEY, *Chairman.*

June 25, 1832.

IN BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF HEALTH, June 25th, 1832.—The foregoing Report was read, accepted, and ordered to be printed for the use of this Board, and the Sub-Commissioners of Health.

Attest,

WM. HAYDEN, JR. *Secretary.*

Dr. M. M.

L. Park St.